MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

FARM ADVISER

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NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

LARGE NUMBER OF EXHIBITS BEING HELD PRELIMINARY TO MARYLAND WEEK

College Park, Md., Oct. 18.

In every section of the State the influence of the Maryland Week Exhibit is being felt, as is shown by the large number of county and local exhibits which are being held. Among the earliest is the St. Mary's Agricultural Fair, which is being held this week at Leonardtown. This is purely an agricultural fair, in the strict sense of being an exhibition of the live stock and farm products of the county. It was started largely at the instance of the local Xaverian Brothers, who have co-operated with the farmers of the county and the County Agent, G. F. Wathen, in bringing it to its present high standard.

Talbot county has plans for a fair, extending from October 26th to 30th, of which County Agent E. P. Walls is superintendent. He is making an especial effort to have the exhibits at this fair representative of the best agriculture in Talbot county. One of the features will be the competitive booths which local Granges of the county will have. One of these Granges, Cordova Grange, won first place at Maryland Week last year in the Club Exhibit competition.

The county Grange of Dorchester will hold an agricultural exhibit at Cambridge on November 11th, from which a club exhibit will be sent to to the Maryland Week competition. County Agent G. B. Porter is chairman of the committee in charge. In Somerset county plans are on foot for a similar exhibition.

In Worcester county a tri-county Corn Exhibit will be held under the auspices of the Pocomoke City National Bank, in which the local county agents are co-operating.

In Queen Anne county, a school fair will be held on November 5th and 6th which promises to exceed the exnibits of past yeais in excellence and attendance. County Agent H. S. Koehler has been exceedingly active in urging the value of this fair upon the farmers of the county. A similar fair will be held in Cecil county on October 26th and 27th, under the direction of School Superintendent McVey. A feature of this fair will be the exhibits of the boys in the Corn Club contest in charge of County Agent G. F. Marsh. In Baltimore county, several local fairs are being held, one of special interest being that promoted by the Rural Life Association at Eclo. This association has done a remarkable community work, being also instrumental in securing a County Agent for Baltimore county.

In Anne Arundel, Calvert, and Charles counties a series of local and county exhibits are to be held early in November as a result of the Corn Club work among the boys of this section. The interest aroused as a result of these competitive exhibits among the boys has led to the enlarging of these annual fairs, several of which will be represented at Maryland Week through individuals or by the club exhibits of local organizations. It is to be hoped that eventually every community and county will find its place among the splendid exhibits which are making Maryland Week every year a great agricultural event of the State. We should look for an exhibition during the week of November 16th to 20th this year, surpassing all held previously.

ALLEGHANY AND GARRET GOUNTY FARMERS HOLD THEIR ANNUAL FESTIVAL AND EXHIBIT

College Park, Md., Oct. 16.

Among the earlier agricultural exhibits held this fall was the Fifth Annual Festival of the Alleghany and Garret county Agricultural Society at Lonaconing. In this festival and exhibit both the townspeople and the farmers of the two counties join, making it not only an exhibit of farm products but also an event in which all people in that section can join. The exhibits of fruit and potatoes were as usual of excellent quantity and variety, the festival covering three days, 13, 14 and 15th. An especial feature was the class for exhibits of seed potatoes, the growing of which is being fostered by the officers of the society, working in co-operation with the County Agricultural Agent, John McGill, Jr., and representatives of the Agricultural College

and Experiment Station. A special demonstration in packing apples was conducted in connection with the festival under the direction of Prof. S. B. Shaw, of the Extension Service, co-operating with Mr. McGill. Another demonstration in selecting seed potatoes was held by Prof. C. E. Temple, also of the Extension Service. Mr. D. R. Sloane, president of the society, and his associates should be well satisfied with the helpful results that are being secured in these counties through the holding of annual exhibitions, which has resulted in the representation of this section in the great Maryland Week Exhibit in Baltimore with marked success.

Prof. F. B. Bomberger, also of the Maryland Agricultural College Extension Service, attended farmers' meetings on the 15th and 16th, one under the auspices of Corriganville Grange and the other at Barton where it is hoped that either a Grange or some similar organization may be established.

CORN SHOW IS SPECIAL FEATURE OF HAGERSTOWN FAIR

College Park, Md., Oct. 14.

In addition to its usual large and attractive exhibit of live stock and farm products, the management of the Hagerstown Fair is making a special feature of its corn show. Special inducements were offered to make competition in corn of especial attraction to growers in that section, in securing which President T. A. Poffenberger, of the Fair Association, took an active part. President Poffenberger and his associates have rendered Washington county a most valuable service in developing the farm products' feature of the fair, which is undoubtedly one of the most helpful things that can be done by a county fair association to arouse real interest and competition among farmers in the growing of high-grade produce. Important as the corn crop is in Washington county, and in fact, in the whole State, it is especially desirable that every encouragement possible be given to the growing of larger crops and the selection of better strains of seeds. There is no better way in which the individual farmer or the farmers of any neighborhood can determine how they stand as corn growers than by holding a local exhibit and following it with entries in the agricultural department of their county fair. In a number of counties less advanced than Washington in the holding of a county fair, this plan is being developed with the result that a strong neighborhood and county pride in the agricultural possibilities of the selections being fostered. In addition to the corn show, the Hagerstown Fair had a well-filled exhibit of other agricultural and horticultural products. The grain exhibits were judged by Prof. Nickolas Schmitz of the Maryland Experimental Station, who is well known in the State as an authority on the growing of field crops. Profs. W. R. Ballard and T. H. White, of the State Experiment Station, judged the fruit and vegetable exhibits.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS HOLD CONFERENCE ON FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE

College Park, Md., Oct. 14.

A number of workers in the Maryland Agricultural College Extension Service and the Maryland State Grange held a conference in Baltimore on Tuesday last. The purpose of the conference was, if possible, to secure the thorough co-operation of the parties interested in promoting the organization of local farmers' clubs, granges, rural life associations and similar organizations, such as already exist in the State with productive results. The statement of Prof. F. B. Bomberger, of the Agricultural College, that as head of the new Division of Rural Economics he was entering upon a thorough canvass of the condition of rural organization in the State, was received with much satisfaction. He will work with all forces in the field in determining what organizations are best suited to certain localities, in organizing such associations, and in keeping up the interest of the new clubs, granges or associations after they are once established. It was recognized by all present that the great obstacle in the rapid multiplication of farmers' organization in the State was mostly due to a lack of knowledge on the part of the members as to how they can best use their organization to their own advantage and that of the community. The county agricultural agents who are now being employed in thirteen counties of the State are expected to be strong factors in organizing their various communities and in co-operating with Prof. Bomberger and the Extension Service which he represents.

State Demonstration Agent G. H. Alford, who has direct charge of County Agent work in the State, expressed himself as strongly in favor of promoting local organizations through his force of county agents, who are the local representatives of the Maryland Agricultural College and the Department of Agriculture. President H. J. Patterson, and Director of Extension T. B. Symons, of the Agricultural College, took the stand that both the County Agent work and the activities of all branches of the College could be made of the most use by the rural people of the State if the latter were organized into community clubs or granges. Especial gratification was expressed as to the value of the local Grange in many parts of the State in developing a strong community spirit and practical co-operation among farmers. State Grange Master B. John Black and State Organizer J. T. Anthony, representing the Maryland State Grange, expressed their willingness to co-operate with the forces of the Agricultural College and its County Agents in any manner possible in strengthening the rural organizations of the State. It is hoped that eventually all rural organizations in each county and in the State will federate for the purpose of promoting its agricultural interests. It is expected that all representatives of the Agricultural College, whether local agents or those attached to the general extension service will attend as frequently as possible all meetings of clubs, granges, or community associations desiring their presence and held for the purpose of improving agricultural conditions.